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Research Note

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

INTERMOUNTAIN FOREST & RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
OGDEN UTAH

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A PARALLAX WEDGE FOR MOUNTAINOUS AREAS

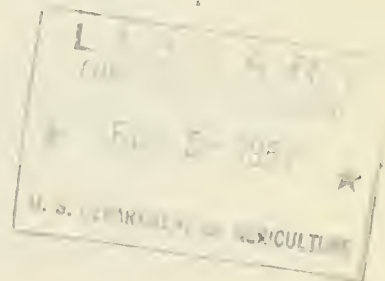
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A new parallax wedge (Fig. 1) has been constructed for use on aerial photos of mountainous areas. Its slightly greater convergence and 10-inch length allow the measurement of 1.08-inch parallax difference. This is three times the span of a standard Forest Service wedge and equal to the parallax range of many floating dot instruments.

Interpreters will appreciate the freedom of this long wedge when working on photos of rough terrain. On 1:20,000 scale photos set up with 2.5 inches separation, height readings are possible at $\pm 2,000$ feet from mean datum of the photo base. Rarely will the tree to be measured lie outside the range encompassed by a single photo set-up.

Although designed for vertical photos, this extreme parallax range allows measurements on split verticals and other low oblique photos.

The long wedge is printed in black on heavy transparent film. Prints may be secured through Director, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah.





PARALLAX WEDGE
for
MOUNTAINOUS AREAS

INTERMOUNTAIN
FOREST & RANGE
EXPERIMENT STATION

Formula

$$h = \frac{H \times dP}{P + dP}$$

h = height of object in feet
H = Flying height of plane in feet
P = Parallax in inches
dP = Difference in Parallax in inches

